

# RENGA

Newsletter Of Kyushu University  
Foreign Students  
Association

**KUFSA**

With you, Always



Czarina Dominique Rodriguez

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Photo credits : Durgesh Darekar



# International Friendship Party 2015



I was invited by my friends and had a wonderful time! I would love to join next time as well. What was interesting for me was the introduction of KUFSA officers and dancing with everyone!

**Satomi Hayashi**, Japan



The party was involving and interesting with quite a number of activities. Sumo wrestling attracted attention from all and was the most interesting and fun for me. I participated and lost all rounds but had enjoyed the experience. Thanks KUFSA for bringing on-board various foreign students and Japanese, even from other universities.

**Mugabi Jophous**, Uganda

The party was SUPER FUN! I could meet some friends that I haven't seen for a while. In addition, I could make more international friends. Interaction with those kinds of people was so wonderful! The most interesting part for me was the Sumo tournament. It was difficult to control the heavy body suit, but it was the most interesting part! I had never had such an experience before. Thanks KUFSA for letting me join in this event.

**Atsushi Shirahama**, Japan

Apart from what Atsushi said, the food was also delicious. I laughed a lot during the sumo tournament. The karaoke and confession corner were also interesting.

**Kevinsanny**, Indonesia



# KUFSA Culture One Day Trip



**E**arly in the morning we took the bus to our first stop, the Hiyoko factory. First, we visited the shop in which all the sweets produced by the factory were sold. This made us very curious to see more! The production line was very impressive, the sweets kept on flashing by and we saw the Hiyoko grow from white bean paste to a cute little bird shaped manju.

After our visit, the factory offered us tea and the freshest Hiyoko one can possibly eat. And delicious it was! Our second stop was the museum of Hakata's food and culture 'HAKUHAKU'. We visited the museum and the mentaiko production line. In the end we got the chance to taste various kinds of mentaiko. Although they looked very cool and interesting, I still don't like the taste and texture of this speciality.

After lunch at the cafeteria that sold various mentaiko flavored dishes, like mentaiko karage. I was very excited about the last visit of the day. Visiting the Nanzoin temple had been on my bucket list for a while. Seeing the biggest bronze Buddha in the world was even better than I had imagined. The amazing surroundings and great weather only added up to this experience.

**Annelies, Belgium**



# *Sushi* Making Party



## First Experience of Making own Sushi

**N**ot only Japan's culture but also its cuisine is unique. In Indonesia, we hardly eat raw food which makes me wonder why Japanese love foods like sushi and sashimi so much.

On February 5, I participated in Sushi Making Class hosted by Nishi Nippon Foundation, as a representative from KUFSA. The 30 participants came from various countries like China, India, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia, etc. All of us were so excited to experience how to make sushi, taught by the expert Sushi Masters.

Sushi Master demonstrated step by step of making nigirizushi, the most common type of sushi in Japan. Firstly, prepare the rice pods by hands, a dab of wasabi under the toppings and then put the slices of fish or other toppings onto the rice.



After explanation, we were allowed to make sushi by ourselves. I made big rice pods for my sushi, too big to eat in one go! After making Nigirizushi, then the Master showed us again how to make rolled sushi with cucumber as filling ingredient. Wow! I liked the latter better! All of us enjoyed the sushi that we made, with hot miso soup and a cup of green tea. What a perfect combination to feel the taste of Japan! Best sushi makers were awarded prizes and certificates.

All in all, I was so pleased to join this kind of event and engage with the Japanese as well as the International community in Fukuoka.

**Mohammad Fadillah, Indonesia**



# Cover page model -Enjoy Life in Japan-

## Czarina Dominique Rodriguez

Department of Chemical Systems and Engineering, M1, From the Philippines

Setting foot on the Land of the Rising Sun had always been my dream, and I am very grateful that I was able to not just come here for a trip but to live and study here. I have been living here for almost a year now, and I can say that although it was a dream-come-true for me, it has become both a challenge and an adventure. It is not easy to live independently, all the more in a foreign country where almost all of the people speak a language unfamiliar to you. It may be frightening at first, but instead of getting discouraged, I have treated this as a challenge. Everyday has become a learning experience. It did not hinder me to venture off and explore different places, experience a different culture, and meet a lot of Japanese and non-Japanese friends. I have been here for just a year, but I am already looking forward to have more adventures to experience the beauty and uniqueness of Japan. So just a tip, especially for the newcomers- do not fret, explore, meet a lot of people and most of all, enjoy your life here in Japan!





We

日本

# Enjoy HANAMI!

Yuka Sonoda, Japan

I am sure you have heard of Sakura, the symbolic flower of Japan yearned for its beauty and warmth. Every year, in the cheery blossom season, parks and temples all over Japan are packed with people enjoying Hanami (Sakura Viewing). The special way Japanese people enjoy Hanami is what makes this cultural event fun and unique.

When spring comes, Sakura start to bloom. It is believed that the practice of HANAMI started from Nara period, 8<sup>th</sup> century. They fully bloom simultaneously in each area and start to fall within only two weeks. Because of the ephemeral nature of this fleeting beauty, Japanese people often compare Sakura to our lives, that “all things will eventually pass”.

Many Japanese would try to guess the exact day to see Sakura in full blossom and reserve special spots in advance. No matter if it's day or night, people party, eating and drinking under the beautiful Sakura trees, a flourish and fun event to welcome Spring!

Hanami is also done during the night; a tradition known as “Yozakura”. Under illumination, at night, many different faces of Sakura can be seen, making it truly special.

We hope you enjoy HANAMI with your family and/or friends. Create precious moments in Japan with the people you love during this beautiful season.



From the Japanese animation,  
“5 centimeters per second”

# Information from the International Student and Researcher Support Center 外国人留学生・研究者サポートセンターからのお知らせ



International Student and Researcher Support Center has been established for international students and researchers to start off your studies or research activities smoothly. Please feel free to contact us when you have any questions or problems.

We extend you our best wishes for your pleasant stay in Fukuoka and fruitful studies and research at Kyushu University.

## Website

We are providing various information regarding campus facilities, immigration procedures, and events/news for foreign residents in Fukuoka through this website.

We hope that you will check our website regularly and get useful information.

## Business hours

9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Hospital campus: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm)

Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays and New Year Holidays

## Location

Japanese: <http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/supportcenter/contact>

English: <http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/supportcenter/en/contact>

Please check more information at Support Center Website!!  
**<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/supportcenter/en>**



Caption the photo, ‘...that time it snowed in Fukuoka’



Photo by **Durgesh Darekar** Mechanical Engineering, India

**Next Event**

**COMING SOON**

Please check our facebook page and web site!!

We hope you can be part of a fruitful year for KUFSA  
**With you always, KUFSA.** Please feel free to contact us at

[KUFSAinfo@gmail.com](mailto:KUFSAinfo@gmail.com)

<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/kufsa/>

<http://www.facebook.com/KUFSA>

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**KUFSA**

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